25th November 1948]

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We are highly thankful to the hon. Member for his suggestion. We shall consider it in due course."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" The question refers to the scheme of nationalization of motor transport in the whole Province. May I know whether there is any such scheme?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We did have a scheme to nationalize motor transport throughout the Province in five years. But later on we deferred it due to several difficulties. We shall resume the consideration of it very soon."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know whether it will not be better for the Government to invest their funds on new industries instead of on the taking over of exising industries?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" That also is being done."

Assistant Panchayat Officers.

* 137 *Q*.—SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the designation of Assistant Panchayat Officers has been changed into Deputy Panchayat Officers and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" No. It is not a fact that the designation of Assistant Panchayat Officers has been changed. The cadre of Assistant Panchayat Officers was abolished and a new cadre of officers called Deputy Panchayat Officers on a higher scale of pay was created, in order to secure a better type of officers for the supervision of Panchayats."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Deputy Panchayat Officers are paid by district boards as was the case with Assistant Panchayat Officers?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Yes, Sir, they are paid by district boards."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know who the appointing authority is, the district board or the Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" The Government have appointed a selection committee and that committee prepares a list. The district board appoints persons from the list."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it that an officer is not forced on a district board against its will and that the district board is competent to choose an officer from the list?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Yes, Sir, the district board is competent."